

**2025 States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA)  
Education & Training Symposium**  
Graduate by Hilton Providence  
11 Dorrance Street | Providence, RI 02903



**Sunday,  
August 24, 2025**

9:00 am – 5:00 pm      SOBA Board of Directors Meeting

**Monday,  
August 25, 2025**

7:00 am – 8:00 am      Breakfast Networking (*provided*)

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7:30 am – 4:30 pm      Registration Open

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8:00 am – 4:00 pm      Federal Updates & Training Workshop  
[Click here to check out the full agenda.](#)

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12:00 pm – 1:30 pm      Lunch (*on own*)

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2:00 pm – 5:00 pm      Exhibitor Setup

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6:00 pm – 8:00 pm      Opening Reception

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8:00 pm – 11:00 pm      Networking

**Tuesday,  
August 26, 2025**

7:00 am – 8:30 am      Breakfast with Exhibitors (*provided*)

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7:00 am – 5:00 pm	Exhibits Open
7:30 am – 11:30 am	Registration Open
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Welcome
9:00 am – 9:15 am	National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) Update
9:15 am – 9:30 am	BoatUS Update
9:30 am – 9:45 am	Association of Marina Industries Update
9:45 am – 10:00 am	National Marine Manufacturers Association Update
10:00 am – 10:15 am	<i>Break with Exhibitors</i>
10:15 am – 10:30 am	River Management Society (RMS) Update
10:30 am – 11:00 am	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Conservation Investment (USFWS-CI) Update
11:00 am – 11:15 am	Partner with a Payer Update
11:15 am – 11:30 am	States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA) Update
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch ( <i>on own</i> )

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1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Registration Open
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Increasing Resilience Through Large Debris Removal Within the Providence Working Waterfront
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Navigating Insights: Understanding the National Recreational Boating Safety Survey (NRBSS)
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	<i>Break with Exhibitors</i>
2:15 pm – 2:45 pm	Boating Access Across Diverse Landscapes
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm <b>Breakout Sessions</b>	<p><b>Charting the Course: Strategies for Inclusive Fishing and Boating Access</b></p> <p><b>Developing a Guide to Increase Pumpout Durability in the Face of Extreme Events</b></p> <p><b>Land Monitoring</b></p>
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	<i>Break with Exhibitors</i>
3:45 pm – 4:15 pm <b>Breakout Sessions</b>	<p><b>Improved Ramp and ADA Accessible Canoe and Kayak Launching Dock for Lincoln Woods State Park</b></p> <p><b>BoatUS Foundation Abandoned &amp; Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Update</b></p> <p><b>Commissioning and Decommissioning a Pumpout Station</b></p>

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4:30 pm – 5:00 pm  
**Breakout Sessions**

**Low Head Dams - Hazards & Impacts**

**Mobilizing Partnerships for Coastal Conservation: Outreach Strategies to Support Boating Access and Water Quality in the South Puget Sound**

**Economic Impact of the BIG Program in South Carolina**

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5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Reception with Exhibitors

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8:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Networking

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**Wednesday,  
August 27, 2025**

7:00 am – 8:30 pm

Breakfast with Exhibitors *(provided)*

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7:00 am – 3:00 pm

Exhibits Open

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7:30 am – 11:30 am

Registration Open

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8:30 am – 9:00 am

The Boat Utah App, Preventing Deferred Maintenance and Providing Satisfying Boating Experiences

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9:00 am – 9:30 am

Designing the Future: Resilient and Accessible Docks

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9:45 am – 10:15 am  
**Breakout Sessions**

**Pumpout Nav App New Features**

**Navigating Unforeseen Obstacles, While Transforming Oconomowoc's Boat Launch and Marina Facility for a More Resilient Future**

**If You Build It, They Will Come**

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10:15 am – 10:30 am    *Break with Exhibitors*

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10:30 am – 11:30 am    Annual Business Meeting

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11:30 am – 1:00 pm    Lunch (*on own*)

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1:00 pm – 5:00 pm    Registration Open

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1:00 pm – 2:00 pm    Project Award Presentations

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2:00 pm – 2:15 pm    *Break with Exhibitors*

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2:15 pm – 3:00 pm    25 Years of Dockwalking: How California Has Empowered Locally-Led Stewardship of Clean Waterways

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3:00 pm – 3:30 pm    Restored Waters in Narragansett Bay

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3:45 pm – 4:15 pm    **Florida's Derelict and At-Risk Vessel Program**

**Breakout Sessions**

**Boating Access Hardships - Permitting, Design, Funding and Construction**

**Rhode Island's First Pumpout Barge**

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4:30 pm – 5:00 pm

**Breakout Sessions**

**The Importance of Accessibility at Water Access Sites**

**Building Capacity to Prevent AIS in the Columbia River Basin**

**Design and Engineering a Boat Launch, One Shoe Does Not Fit All**

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6:00 pm – 8:30 pm      Awards Banquet

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8:30 pm – 11:00 pm      Networking

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**Thursday,  
August 28, 2025**

**Exploring Rhode Island's Waterways:  
Boating Access, BIG, and CVA Sites**  
*\*Separate Registration Fee*

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7:15 am – 7:45 am      Breakfast (*provided*)

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8:00 am                      Bus Departs Graduate Hotel Providence

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8:40 am                      Arrive at Colt State Park Boat Ramp  
*Boating Access Site*

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9:30 am                      Depart Colt State Park Boat Ramp

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9:45 am                      Arrive at Mount Hope Boat Ramp  
*Boating Access Site*

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10:30 am                     Depart Mount Hope Boat Ramp

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10:45 am                     Arrive at Bristol Maritime Welcome Center  
*BIG and CVA Sites*

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10:45 am – 1:45 pm      Tour the Bristol Maritime Welcome Center, including three BIG projects and four CVA projects.

Attendees can also explore the town of Bristol, shop, and grab lunch. *Lunch is on your own.*

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1:45 pm	Depart Bristol Maritime Welcome Center
2:25 pm	Arrive at Haines Park Boat Ramp <i>Boating Access Site</i>
3:00 pm	Depart Haines Park Boat Ramp
3:30 pm	Arrive at Gano Park Boat Launch <i>Boating Access Site</i>
4:15 pm	Depart Gano Park Boat Launch
4:30 pm	Return to Graduate Hotel Providence

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*Subject to change.  
Updated 08.08.25*